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The Chronicle

Vol.15 No. 26 Monday, April 21, 1997

Seeing visions: Committee seeks input

Vision statement for the University has members looking for feedback about campus

MARY VERSTEEG-HALL
Staff Writer

Purdue University Calumet is focusing in on a future vision. It is a vision for its students and employees. The principles, which will shape this new entity, are being brought into sight through the PUC Vision Committee.

When they are finished, Purdue University will have a new vision statement. A statement that will embody topics that range from the impact of new technological advancements, such as the Internet and distance learning, to the campus dining facilities.

"We are trying to lay out a plan for the future of the University," said Daniel M. Dunn, Associate Vice Chancellor for Academic Affairs and the Chairman of the Vision Committee. "Right now, we are in the very early stages of the vision statement."

"We wanted to involve people in the first thoughts of the committee, believing it was really important for our campus community to be given the opportunity to be involved in the beginning of this vision statement. The campus' feedback is invited and will be listened to."

The Vision Committee includes 23 members, composed of faculty, staff and two graduate students. In March the individual members were asked to discuss the initial themes with one other person on campus, making the input encompass a possible 46 individuals. In the next six weeks undergraduate students will

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Los Latinos finish third at sportsfest

BY CONNIE RAMIREZ
Staff Writer

Los Latinos of Purdue University Calumet returned home Sunday evening from Bloomington, Ind. after having participated in Indiana University's Fourteenth Annual Midwest Hispanic Sportsfest. Los Latinos took third place honor for its first team, the A Team, in the overall competition. This year Los Latinos had two teams participating in IU's Sportsfest, the A Team and the B Team. In the overall competition Latinos Unidos of IU finished in first place and DePauw University came in second, and not far behind Los Latinos' A Team, in third, the B Team placed fourth. Indiana-Purdue Fort Wayne placed fifth, Indiana University Northwest placed sixth and IU's Greeks finished seventh.

The A Team's Gabriel Magana was awarded the football competition's Most Valuable Player award. The A Team's third place finish maintained Los Latinos' reputation as ranking in the top three positions when representing PUC.

"Team B played with a lot of heart and emotion and played through adversity because of their injuries," Los Latinos B Team member Jorge Ontiveros said. Los Latinos' B Team suffered a few injuries during the sports competition in basketball early Sunday morning, towards the end of the event. Two of the members Claudia Rios and Margaret Hruskocy suffered ankle injuries, forcing the B Team to forfeit a final game which could have tied both PUC team for third place.

The B Team's Juan Ortiz was awarded the basketball competition's second Most Valuable Player

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Photos by Connie Ramirez

Top:
In a volleyball game against DePauw, Margaret Hruskocy and Jorge Ontiveros, right, prepare themselves for their opponent's serve.
Right:
Roberto Ceballos and Carmen Navarro try to keep warm during a football practice before playing IU.

Communication seminar highlights career options

Chronicle Staff Report

The Communication and Creative Arts Department will host the fourth annual seminar: "What can you do with a communication degree?" The seminar will take place Thursday, April 24 in Alumni Hall from 6 to 9 p.m.

This seminar will acquaint undergraduate and graduate students with career paths of PUC Alumni who obtained a Bachelor of Arts in Communication degree with options in general communication, organizational communication, public relations, radio and television, and/or a master of arts.

The format for the evening will allow students to hear from Alumni in an informal setting. This event will also provide an opportunity to network with professionals from a variety of fields and industries.

For more information call the department of communication and creative arts at 989-2393.

Race-based scholarships stopped; causes decreased diversity at Texas University

Despite efforts to reverse trend, campus makeup less ethnic

AUSTIN, Texas (CPS) – For a preview of what happens when universities drop racial preferences in undergraduate admissions and scholarships, California might well take a look at Texas.

The University of Texas, responding to a federal court ruling, already has changed its admissions and scholarship criteria – a year ahead of the University of California. Following a blueprint similar to one proposed at UC, the Texas system tried to save diversity by considering non academic factors such as a student's experience overcoming hardship.

Yet as the flagship UT-Austin campus prepares to send out its final batch of admissions letters today, the results are in: fewer minorities are getting in under the new race-blind policy, and far fewer will receive scholarships.

"What we're discovering is that there is no proxy for race," said Bruce Walker, UT- Austin's head of admissions.

As of mid-March, 37 percent of African-American high school seniors who applied to UT- Austin for regular admission had been accepted, down from 54 percent last year. The admission rate for Latino seniors also fell, while the admission rate for white and Asian applicants rose.

The number of applications from all groups also fell, but the decrease was proportionately greatest among black and Latino applicants.

Keisha Truevillian, an 18-year-old senior in a magnet program at Austin's Johnston High School, was among those who decided not to apply. She had been considering UT after a classmate won a $20,000 minority scholarship there

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Earth Day - everyday

Environmental awareness fair on the Plaza

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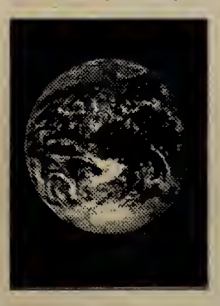

Opinion

TP Guy says 'Reduce, reuse, recycle, rebuy.'

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Students in crisis may be vulnerable to cults, say experts

(CPS) – After 12 years of being in a cult, Lisa Caroll left the group to obtain a master's degree in sociology.

"I wanted to find out why I went in," said Caroll, who now works in public relations for a Southern California college.

Caroll joined when she was 18, while she was a freshmen in college. The death of her mother that same year drove her into involvement with the cult. "That's usually when people get involved in cults and mainstream religion. It's the feeling of emptiness," she says.

Concerned for her safety, Caroll prefers not to reveal the cult's identity. "It'd be too dangerous," she said. "You have to understand their mindset."

It's the same mindset that drove the Heaven's Gate cult to commit mass suicide in San Diego. "I would have done anything to protect the leader of the group. I believed that she was God," Caroll said of her group, not tied to Heaven's Gate.

"I had dreams about throwing myself in front of a bullet to protect her. The group that I was with is still active. They will do anything to protect this person," she said.

College students are often drawn into cults because the groups "mix truth with lies. If it was just one big lie, it would be easy."

While it's normal to feel homesick while being away from home, not all students know how to cope with their feelings, Caroll said. Some, as a result, join cults, who fill the need for family, she said.

Estimates on the number of active cults in America range anywhere from 3,000 to 5,000, depending on the source. Numbers for college student involvement are more difficult to come by, given the secrecy of such groups.

ADMINISTRATION UPDATE

Introducing....

Purdue Calumet

Marketing at Purdue Calumet takes on a new component with the introduction of the new, institutional logo appearing above.

You may remember last fall that another university logo was introduced. That circular graphic—appearing below and at the upper right hand corner of the front page of each issue of The Chronicle this academic year—was adopted as Purdue University Calumet's official graphic identity.

PURDUE UNIVERSITY PC CALUMET

It appears, among other places, on university stationery, business cards and the diplomas many of you will receive next month. It is designed to portray a formal graphic representation of Purdue University Calumet.

However the formality of "Purdue University Calumet" is not typically how we are referred to on the streets and in the homes of our communities. More often, reference to our identity is less formal. Just as Pennsylvania State University is commonly called Penn State, we are commonly identified as "Purdue Calumet" or, simply, "Purdue Cal."

The new, more informal "Purdue Calumet" logo provides a graphic calling card for reaching out to our markets in a less formal, more casual manner.

The Purdue Calumet informal logo provides a contemporary look, conducive to use on clothing (T-shirts, caps, etc.); visual advertising, bumper stickers, decals, promotional tokens/items, student materials, electronic/web site communication, etc.

This informal logo also attempts to incorporate design elements consistent with a desired marketing message that suggests roads leading to Purdue Calumet lead to success.

Certainly, within the big picture of higher education and its integral value, there are more important considerations than marketing logos. By the same token, there is a lot to be said for being responsive to and on the same page perceptually as our publics.

Campus Crime Watch

Purdue Calumet crime statistics are reported to the federal government and published periodically in this column. Reported campus crimes during January through March are as follows:

CATEGORY	Jan.	Feb.	Mar.
Personal Property Theft	2	4	6
Amount of Loss	$230	$470	$3,919
Univ. Property Theft	2	2	2
Amount of Loss	$1,950	$ 68	$ 258
Vehicle Theft	0	1	1
Burglary	0	0	0
RECOVERIES MADE			
Vehicle Theft	0	1	1

Know news? Call the Chronicle at 989-2547

At a glance

student organizations

Green Coaltion proposal

Come see The Green Coalition's Recycling Program proposal for campus. They will be at a booth in the concourse of the Library Building Tuesday, April 22, Earth Day, and during the Environmental Awareness Fair, Wednesday April 23 and Thursday April 24. The Green Coalition wants to get students input on the proposal and help in implementing the program.

Student Awards Banquet

Just a reminder of the Student Awards Banquet Friday, April 25 at Scherwood South in Schererville. The evening will begin at 6 p.m. with a social time, dinner at 6:30 p.m. and awards program from 7:30 to 9:30 with a dance following.

Student Government elections

The Student Government elections for various student government positions for the 1997-1998 school year will take place April 23 and 24. Remember to vote

Showtime at Purdue

The Black Student Union presents 'Showtime at Purdue' April 26 from 5 to 7 p.m. in Alumni Hall. Admission is $4. Showtime auditions will be April 17 from 5 to 8 p.m. in SFLC-321. For more information call student activities at 989-2369.

Fun Fest '97

The Student Programming Board presents Fun Fest '97 Saturday, April 26 from 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. in the gym of the Physical Education and Recreation Building. The event is for all students and their families. There will be free games and food for everyone to enjoy.

Register for Fun Fest

Team registration forms for Fun Fest '97 are due Monday, April 21 in the office of student activities. All teams should consist of 15 people. All team members should not come from the same organization. Teams should also be co-ed.

around campus

Fulbright Scholar awards 1998-99 competition

The competition for 1998-99 Fulbright senior scholar awards opens on March 1, 1997. Opportunities for lecturing or advanced research in nearly 130 countries are available to college and university faculty and professionals outside academe. Awards range from two months to a full academic year, and many assignments are flexible to the needs of the grantee.

The basic eligibility requirements for a Fulbright senior scholar award are U.S. citizenship and the Ph.D or comparable professional qualifications (for certain fields such as the fine arts or TEFL, the terminal degree in the field may be sufficient). For lecturing awards, university or college teaching experience is expected. Foreign language skills are needed for some countries, but most lecturing assignments are in English.

The deadline for lecturing or research grants for 1998-99 is AUGUST 1, 1997. Other deadlines are in place for special programs.

Funding for the Fulbright Program is provided by the United States Information Agency, on behalf of the U.S. government, and by cooperating governments and host institutions abroad. Contact Rochelle Harris for more information.

The Wellness Center presents two workshops on cancer

Controlling Cancer Get the Facts

April's Wellness Workshops

Men: Controlling Cancer – Get the Facts

Tuesday, April 22, 1997

11:45 a.m. - 12:30 p.m., LAWS-305

Facilitated by: Dianne Mitro

This session will present an overview of the types of cancers men get, cancer symptoms, and what men can do to reduce their risks.

Women: Controlling Cancer – Get the Facts

Thursday, April 24, 1997

11:45 a.m. - 12:30 p.m., LAWS-333

Facilitated by: Dianne Mitro

This session will present an overview of the types of cancers women get, cancer symptoms, and what women can do to reduce their risks.

– Compiled by Chronicle staff from press releases and other sources

Quote of the week

'God gave me my money. I believe the power to make money is a gift from God. ... I believe it is my duty to make money and still more money and to use the money I make for the good of my fellow man according to the dictates of my conscience.'

-John D. Rockefeller
In an interview [1905]

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Millions in Pell Grants awarded to students who lied about income

Audits with IRS shows $109 million given to 102,000 students who cheated system

(CPS) – While education officials have always known some college students falsify documents to get Pell Grants, it's only recently that they've been able to determine the extent of the lies.

A new study reveals that more than 100,000 college students received Pell Grants during the 1995-96 school year who should have never received the free federal money.

According to the U.S. Department of Education's Office of Inspector General, college students lied about their family income to get the award money. Worse yet, the Inspector General's office reported that colleges, by themselves, have no way of discouraging the practice.

"We knew some people were lying, based on our past criminal investigations where we have found that students had lied," said Patrick Howard, director of student financial assistance programs for the Office of Inspector General at the Department of Education. "We just had no idea of the magnitude."

How big is the problem?

The Inspector General's report found thousands of students are lying and costing the government millions as a result.

Working with the Internal Revenue Service, the Inspector General's office compared family incomes reported on students' financial-aid applications with those reported on their parents' federal tax records.

The audit showed the government gave $109 million more than they should have to at least 102,000 students in 1995-96 because students either failed to report or underreported their income. In addition, at least 1,200 students who claimed to be veterans were not.

One unnamed student reported no income on the student-aid application, even though the IRS found the student's family reported more than $1.3 million in adjusted gross income on their tax return.

The result, according to the Inspector General's Office, was that they were granted independent status, which most likely increased their eligibility for Pell Grants. Students in this category were awarded more than $1.9 million in Pell Grants, which are supposed to go only to needy students.

'greatest discrepancies'

The audit also referred to four unnamed students who stood out because they had "the greatest income discrepancies" between their tax forms and student-aid forms. Three of the four students received full Pell Grants; the other was awarded a grant slightly below the $2,400 maximum.

The parents of the four students reported family incomes to the IRS ranging from $646,720 to $1,306,913. During the same period, three students reported zero earnings on their student-aid applications and the fourth reported just over $7,000.

It gets worse: One unnamed student reported no income on the student-aid application, even though the IRS found the student's family reported more than $1.3 million in adjusted gross income on their tax return. The student, although his identity is known to the IRS, can't be prosecuted, Howard says.

Immunity from prosecution

In fact, none of the students who received Pell Grant money will be prosecuted.

"At this point, we cannot go after them criminally, although we'd love to," Howard said. "It's part of our agreement with the IRS."

That agreement only allowed the Department of Education to report how widespread the fraud is. It did not allow the department to reveal the names of the students either to the public or the schools where the Pell Grants were applied.

Currently, the department relies on colleges to verify that students submit accurate data on their student-aid forms. Federal law requires colleges to verify key eligibility information for at least 30 percent of their students who receive federal aid.

But while many colleges require aid applicants to submit copies of their family's federal income tax form, the colleges have "no assurances" that the forms are the same as those sent to the IRS, the report said.

"Sometimes people submit fake 1040s. There are marketing companies that are in the business of producing fraudulent tax returns," Inspector General Thomas Bloom testified during a hearing before a subcommittee of the House Committee on Goverment Reform and Oversight.

Vision

Continued from page 1

be asked for their input in the vision statement as well.

A topic under discussion is developing a registration system using touch-tone phones. This would enable students to register for classes from home, without the aid of their advisor. In turn, that would allow more time for advisors to mentor their students.

"One of the concepts the committee is wrestling with is separating advising from mentoring," said Dunn. "There is greater value in discussing things about your degree with an advisor."

Thus, with touch-tone registration, advising would become less tied to scheduling and more concerned with students' needs and interests, said Dunn.

Another topic includes top-quality food service and dining atmosphere.

"It's an important concept because you want a dining area conducive to student interaction; food provides a bonding mechanism."

Also on the committee's table is a 100 percent smoke-free campus environment.

'One of the concepts the committee is wrestling with is separating advising from mentoring. There is greater value in discussing things about your degree with an advisor.'

Dan Dunn, Chairman of the Vision Committee

"I think the (University) should eliminate smoking on the campus," said Hector Navaro, a PUC student. "Every time I leave the Gyte building, I enter a mushroom of smoke."

"Yeah," said Renee Rado, a PUC student. "I don't want to breathe that stuff."

Preparing students for an ever changing world is another item the committee is discussing.

Committee member, Dennis Barbour, head of the english and philosophy department, said, "The committee feels that, given the amount of new technology, we need educators that can use this technology to educate their class.

"For example, we are developing a multimedia course, which will be offered in the fall. This class will enable students to become familiar with multimedia sound, graphics, using the Internet, et cetera..

"This is just one of the examples of what we are looking at for the future of this campus. (The University) is on the cutting edge of technology and we want to maintain it."

There are more than a hundred other topics being addressed by the committee right now. This may explain why Dunn did not have an exact date as to when the vision statement would be completed.

"We will hear many responses from a lot of people concerning these various topics," said Dunn. That is why the committee is allowing the creation of the vision statement to be a participatory or democratic discussion.

Career Corner

Vector Marketing

A table will be set up with information in the SFLC Concourse from 10 a.m. - 3 p.m. on April 21 and April 22.

Panasonic US Office Equipment

They are seeking all LAS, Business, Management, and Marketing majors for sales consulting positions on April 24.

Meldisco

They will have a table in the SFLC Concourse on April 30 from 10 a.m. - 3 p.m. Same-day formal interviews will be held for all majors interested in full and part-time positions as a Management Trainee.

Attention All Women!

A Women's Career Day/Night is being held at the American Legion Hall in Merrillville to support women who want to build their own business. Find out how to begin a business without high start-up fees and without quitting your full-time job! To reserve a seat at the Women's Career Day Seminar, or, for more information contact: Jon Ranta at (219) 755-4504.

Clean Air Car Check

Five new Clean Air Car Check Stations in the surrounding areas need part-time emission inspectors. You must be 18 years of age, have good people skills, a valid Indiana Driver's license and be able to drive stick-shift vehicles. *All training is provided and* flexible work schedules are available. Come to CD&P, SFLC-349 for contact information.

Lab Support

Lab Support is a professional temporary help service dedicated to placing scientists in laboratories across the country. If you have a degree in Chemistry, Food Science, Biology or other related science fields, they can help you get experience in your field. For more information, or the one nearest you, call (800) 998-3332

Diversity

Continued from page 1

last year. Then she found out the scholarship isn't offered anymore.

"I was hurt," said Keisha. "It kind of makes you feel like you're being cheated, because everyone before you got it."

She wound up applying to three other Texas universities that aren't as competitive as UT, and is considering an out-of-state school that offers race-based scholarships.

Campus administrators in Texas call the drop in minority applications and admission rates "the Hopwood effect," an allusion to the court case that brought a halt to affirmative action at universities in Texas and two other states. In 1992, Cheryl Hopwood and three other white applicants sued UT's law school, charging that its practice of using different admissions standards for minorities and whites was discriminatory. Last year, the Fifth U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals agreed. The U.S. Supreme Court refused to hear the university's appeal.

UT's 1997 freshman class could become even less diverse if the few minority students who were admitted this spring decide to go elsewhere because they couldn't get scholarships. Last year, the university spent $1.4 million on about 600 ethnicity-based merit scholarships, virtually all of which went to black and Latino students. The scholarships weren't based on financial need.

The rules are different this year. UT now awards scholarships based on what it calls an "adversity index." The index weighs a complex set of factors that include the education level of students' parents, family income, and how well students performed on standardized tests relative to their classmates.

Sportsfest

Continued from page 1

award. The B Team won the event's most popular competition, "El Grito" contest, with it's participants Summer Coronado and Juan Casas.

Los Latinos representing PUC at Sportsfest proved to be an overall victory at the event's most important meeting between student leaders. "The banquet gave Los Latinos students the opportunity to network with other students from across the state," Los Latinos Vice President Roberto Ceballos said. According to the organizers of Sportsfest, this year proved to be successful. "There were so many universities and such a successful turn out with more than a hundred people playing, it showed the growing interest and enthusiasm for the event," Chairman of Philanthropy for Latinos Unidos of IU Robert Cespedes said.

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The Chronicle

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Expanded program needs a coalition effort

As another Earth Day comes and goes, we should all take a moment to examine what we have done for our planet in the past year. More important than looking at what we have or haven't done in the past year, we should take a moment to look at the future and the direction we are going.

One group that is looking to the future is the Green Coalition of Purdue University Calumet. They are working on a recycling proposal to enhance the current recycling program here at PUC.

With the help of the administration, we could all eliminate even more recyclable garbage from the garbage dumps that continue to fill up.

The enhanced recycling program calls for more recycling bins that allow for the recycling of more types of waste.

The current program focuses on the reclamation of paper and aluminum. The Green Coalition reports that approximately five tons of paper is collected once a month from the university. Imagine how much other garbage is collected every month.

The expanded program would not only focus on paper and aluminum, but also include plastic and glass.

As more people are provided the opportunity to make a conscious effort to recycle here at school, it hoped that it will transfer over into their lives away from school.

The only way we will be able to make such a plan work is to set goals and stick with them. The Green Coalition is doing their part. Now it is up to the administration to work with the Green Coalition and try to implement the more comprehensive program.

We are all a necessary part of the recycling effort. Remember, we are all in this together.

The Chronicle Editorial Policy

The views expressed in the commentaries and Letters to the Editor do not necessarily reflect the views of *The Chronicle* or Purdue University Calumet. *The Chronicle* is not an official publication of Purdue University Calumet.

The Chronicle welcomes reader input. Letters and commentaries must include the author's name, class standing or other affiliation and a telephone number for verification. Anonymous letters and commentaries will be considered for publication only if accompanied with the aforementioned specifications.

All materials submitted to *The Chronicle* become the property of *The Chronicle*. All material must be typed (double spaced) or saved on a 3.5" DOS format disk. *The Chronicle* reserves the right to edit for clarity, accuracy, space and news style. Copy deadline is noon the Wednesday before publication.

MOM, CAN WE USE THE COMPUTER TO DOWNLOAD SOME PORNOGRAPHY?
NO!
MOM, CAN WE USE THE COMPUTER TO GET INFORMATION ON HOW TO BUILD A BOMB?
NO!
WELL, THEN, CAN WE USE THE COMPUTER TO JOIN SOME DEATH CULT?
NO!
I TELL YA, GET A COMPUTER AND YOUR FOLKS WON'T CARE WHAT YOU WATCH ON T.V..

Don't bare your breasts in public

View from elsewhere

By Genoa Barrow
University Wire

(U-WIRE) SAN JOSE, CA. Breast feeding is one of the most natural things in the world.

Popping your breasts out in public, however, is not natural. It shows lack of class and lack of consideration for other people.

A bill that would allow women to breast-feed in public won approval in the state assembly Thursday. The measure could become law if it gets the nod from the state senate.

The bill, written by Assembly Majority Leader Antonio Villaraigosa (D-Los Angeles), was introduced to address complaints from angry mothers who were tired of being thrown out of business offices, stores and other establishments for nursing their babies.

Although Gov. Pete Wilson has said that he will sign the bill, he called it "needless." I never thought the day would come that I would agree with Good Old Pete, but I do. Women don't need permission or validation, all they need is common sense. Common sense would tell a woman not to open her blouse in church. Common sense would tell a woman not to expose herself in a sports arena.

Women say they should be able to breast feed wherever they choose. I agree but, I should also be able to walk down the street, go into a store or enjoy a nice meal without having to see or hear a woman nursing her child. When I go out to a restaurant, the only breast I want to see is on my plate covered in marinara sauce.

Pediatricians have been preaching the benefits of breast feeding for ages.

They say it's healthier than giving them cow's milk. It helps mother and child bond, and babies who have been breast fed tend to get sick less.

I wouldn't begrudge a child its health or a mother her chance to give that child the love and nourishment it needs to survive, but damn. Where does it end? Once while I was grocery shopping, a woman's breasts started leaking milk in the bread and cereal aisle. There's a joke in there somewhere but it's highly inappropriate for this piece. Instead of leaving the supermarket to dry herself off, the woman took her child out of its carrier and started nursing him. I must have given her my patented "Oh no, she didn't" look because she giggled and explained, "I don't want to waste any."

The woman had no class. That's all I ask - that a woman be tactful when she breast feeds. I have no problem if a woman puts a light blanket over herself while she nurses. It's the women who assume that everybody wants to see their tigoldbitties that I have a problem with.

What a woman does with her body and her child is her business. It becomes my business when she shows them to me while I'm shopping, eating or waiting for the bus.

Ellen's gay – so are thousands of others

View from elsewhere

This editorial appeared recently in The Daily Sundial of California State University-Northridge

It has got to be a tough gig being a homosexual in the age of "political correctness." Who really cares that this is America, "the home of the free?" The country that prides itself on being the nation where "all men are created equal ..."

A recent cover of Time magazine boasted Ellen DeGeneres, star of the hit sitcom "Ellen," announcing that she was indeed gay. Speculation on this matter has been running rampant over the course of the past few months, it almost became a matter of national importance.

Still it prompts many self-respecting citizens to ask the ever-lingering question: "Who really gives a damn?" Yeah, she's gay. So are hundreds of thousands of other people.

Nonetheless, there are still several simpletons out there who can't find anything better to do with their time than make a big brouhaha – one such example being the American Family Association, a radical right organization dedicated to upholding "family values."

And what better way to uphold the moral fabric in American society by targeting a source of such moral depravity as the show "Ellen?" Let us not forget the sitcom is produced by the Disney corporation, the symbol for all things good and pure ...

The American Family Association has compiled a list of the three leading "Ellen" advertisers from Jan. 1, 1997 through March 22, 1997. In an attempt to get the show off the air, the group is encouraging its followers to contact these advertisers and "politely" ask them not to sponsor DeGeneres' show and stop pushing the "homosexual agenda."

Agenda? Are they planning on weaving an evil, mindlock web around America's television viewing public in an attempt to brainwash them into their "way of living?"

Probably not. Oprah has been doing this for years; no one is sabotaging her advertising. It becomes increasingly hard to editorialize against such narrow-mindedness.

Hey, people are gay ... Get over it. Is bigotry a family value we want instilled in our children? Hopefully not. People aren't gay by choice, and if even if they were ... so what? "All men created equal." Apparently, this doesn't mean anything unless one is straight, but even then it doesn't mean a helluva lot.

Unfortunately, we're a country built on hypocrisy. It's a shame people care more about Ellen's sexual orientation.

A visual oxymoron: The wetlands of PUC

MARY VERSTEEG-HALL
Staff Writer

'We wanted people to become more aware of what a wetland is and to begin to understand its value. Both books give you a good idea of what it was like before it was changed.'

Professor Charles Tinkham

'As of right now, we are not thinking about building on it. We have a broad vision for its use.'

Mike Kull, director of physical facilities

As I exited my 1990 Plymouth Laser, stepping on to the smooth, solid asphalt of the Purdue University Calumet K-building parking lot, I faced a wetland tangled with high reaching trees mirrored in the reflection of moss framed pools of water.

As I entered, I passed under brush dotted with spring's early green buds promising summer. Once inside, my feet moved carefully ahead leaving prints in the soft mud. The loud crunching of branches and leaves could be heard, as I stepped into the unknown.

Off in the distance, I could hear the traffic of the Borman Expressway, a train's warning call on a nearby track, and airplanes interrupting the sounds of woodland birds – robins and red-eyed vireo.

Surrounded by highways, roads, a campus and an armory, the 92 acres of PUC wetland is a slice of the past with the present grafted around it. Protected under the 1977 amendment to the Clean Water Act, the PUC wetland covers more than 50 percent of the campuses area.

It is a visual oxymoron. It is symbolic of the history of northwest Indiana. And it is a precursor to the questions the 21st century will soon face: How do we preserve our natural surroundings and grow economically at the same time?

Before white settlers moved in all of northwest Indiana was bogs, sloughs, with scattered patches of black loam prairie and sections of pine, cedar and scrub oak trees.

Although the Potawatomi, a native American Indian tribe, back in the 1700s inhabited, fished, and hunted on this land, the European Americans had a different view point of the swampy grounds.

Hammond was first dredged, its swamps filled, and then a few roads were built around the middle of the 18th century. The railroads came soon afterwards, connecting Chicago and northwest Indiana to the east. Next, after refrigerated boxcars were invented, Hammond's meatpacking era moved in with the G.H. Hammond Company Packing Plant. After the plant burned down in 1901, big industry moved in: Pullman-Standard, Ashland Oil, and many others.

Today, after most of the mammoth industrial giants relocated in the 1970s, leaving many Hammond residents jobless, Hammond is left with a only a faint hint of what it used to be before European settlers moved in. One of these hints is the wetlands on the PUC campus.

"We have two essential things we have to take care of: the people who have to work and the land which has to be taken care of," said PUC English Professor Charles Tinkham with concern. "We have fine people in this area, and we owe them an opportunity to work.

"But at the same time we must preserve the environment."

Between 1993 and 1994 Professor Tinkham, along with Tom Baily and the deceased Professor of English, Robert E. Nichols, Jr., compiled two books, A Year Among the Wildflowers of Purdue Calumet and A Year Among the Trees of Purdue Calumet. Each book catalogues various species of flowers and trees found in the PUC wetland.

"We wanted people to become more aware of what a wetland is and to begin to understand its value," said Tinkham. "Both books give you a good idea of what it was like before (the area) was changed."

In each book, Tinkham's verses bring voice to the flowers and trees found in the wetlands.

"When I became a conservationist, most of my friends thought I was going crazy," said Tinkham, his blue eyes giggling. "They said I was wasting an education by making a study of weeds.

"Most people don't understand that animal life depends on plant life. I don't think we have to worry about the asteroids destroying us; we're doing a good job of destroying the earth ourselves.

Right now the wetland's future rests in the hands of Purdue University.

"As of right now, we are not thinking about building on it," said Michael J. Kull, director of physical facilities. "We have a broad vision for its use.

"We've looked into construction, a wetland lab, a hiking trail, or just leaving it alone. We've looked into everything.

"If student enrollment goes up, its use will become a (more narrowed) issue."

In order for PUC to build on the wetland, they would have to replace it with perhaps five times the area of the wetland and create a new wetland – called "compensatory mitigation" by government officials, said Kull.

This would be a long term investment that could take around five years to complete, said Kull.

As for the wetland, it stands today with deer tracks, the songs of birds, whistling willows, budding trees, and rippling water, dancing as the wind caresses its surface, singing its song into the future.

Woodland Sunflower

[Helianthus divaricatus]

August-October. Native. From the roots of *wah-pi-no-wus-kwee*, "dawn weed," Potawatomi

This drawing by Tom Bailey is part of the book, 'A Year Among the Wildflowers of Purdue Calumet,' a book highlighting the flora on the PUC campus. The book features poetry by Prof. Charles Tinkham.

What is a wetland?

Wetlands are called swamps, bogs, marshes, sloughs, bottomlands, fens and wet meadows. There are three ways to detect a wetland:

1. They have hydric, or wet soil.
2. Fourteen days of standing water during the growing season from March 1 to Oct. 1.
3. Wetland vegetation such as reed canary grass, meadow foxtail or ash trees.

What do wetlands do?

- Flood Control

Destruction from floods costs taxpayers between $3 billion to $4 billion.

- Water Quality

Wetlands clean the water by filtrating pollutants and then absorbing pollutants.

- Recreation Outlets
- Shoreline Stabilization
- Reduction of Coastal Storm Damage
- Habitat for Waterfowl
- Freshwater Fish
- Timber Production
- Wildlife Habitat
- Habitat for Threatened and Endangered Species

Top 10 reasons why we should save the earth

10. Venusian schoolchildren will make up cruel nursery rhymes about us if we don't.

9. It will give Sting one less thing to worry about.

8. If we don't, Newt Gingrich will have to return to the mother ship.

7. We just painted it!

6. If we repair all the damage, we might get our deposit back!

5. We can still get parts.

4. Someone has to stick around to find out what all those crop circles are about.

3. What will happen if we don't get to see 'All My Children.'

2. So we can stop building mini-malls.

1. The landlord has an unbelievably bad temper.

Environmental Awareness fair to feature speakers, information

Fair to be outdoors; Green Coalition to present recycling proposal to campus.

Chronicle Staff Report

As a celebration of 1997 Earth Week, PUC will host its annual Environmental Awareness Fair. The Fair will feature a poster session and two public lectures.

The poster session will be held in the PUC Founders Plaza during 9 a.m. and 3 p.m., April 24. Eight to ten local community organizations, government agencies, and PUC student organization will participate. During the poster session, the participants will introduce their organizations along with membership drive and/or present their accomplishments in environmental conservation and management. Also, the City of Hammond Recycling Department will collect old shoes for recycling.They will accept all shoes except the following: shoes with heels higher than 2 inches, ice, roller or in-line skates, clogs, "jelly" shoes or bedroom slippers.

Dr. Richard Whitman (Chief Scientist, Lake Michigan Ecological Station of US Geological Survey - Biological Resources Division) and Mr. Paul Labus will give public lectures on the topic "Feasibility of Wetland Restoration in the Grand Calumet River Basin." Dr. Whitman's lecture is scheduled on April 24 from 6:30-7:30 p.m., followed by Mr. Labus' lecture on Friday April 25 from 1-2 p.m. Both lectures will be held in the GYTE-103.

The Green Coalition will be on hand to inform the campus community of their comprehensive recycling proposal. The proposal involves all types of materials, says Green Coalition president Eric Huffman.

Groups expected to be at the fair include PUC's Green Coalition, Outings club and Students of compassion.

Admission to all events is free and the public is invited.

FUN FEST '97

Saturday, April 26
at the Physical Education and Recreation Building (K-building)
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For students, faculty and their families

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Liv Tyler admits she's not looking for blockbusters

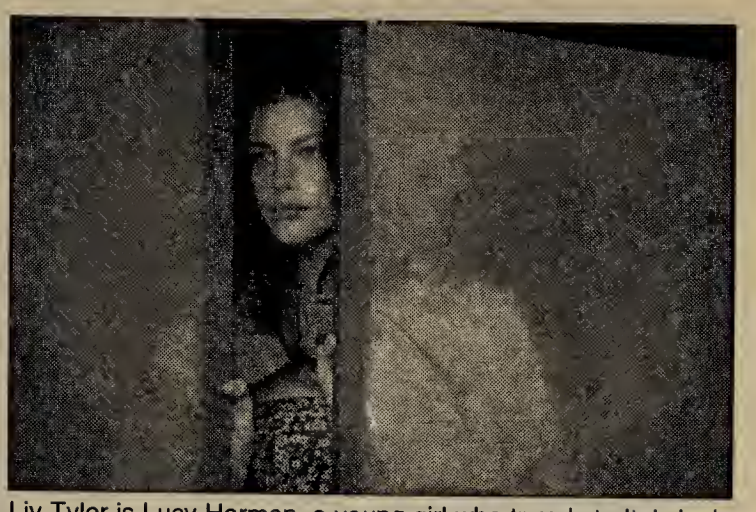
NEW YORK (CPS) – Liv Tyler is just full of surprises.

The actress, with her pouty lips, mournful eyes, and model-like height and figure, has been touted as Hollywood's next big thing for a few years now. She, however, keeps turning up in smaller, art house-style films. "Heavy," "Empire Records" and Bernardo Bertolucci's "Stealing Beauty" all come to mind. Even when she tries to go Hollywood, it's in the likes of "That Thing You Do!," the charming, Tom Hanks-directed box office flop about the travails of a little band that hits it big in the still-innocent early 1960s.

Now, Tyler is back again in a major studio film, "Inventing the Abbotts," but it's a modest ensemble piece about young love and class struggles circa the 1950s.

"I'm definitely avoiding the $50 million action movie," Tyler says with a sly smile as she sits down for an interview at a Manhattan hotel. On this day, the 19-year-old actress is dressed simply in black pants and a light purple sweater, with her long brown hair pulled back. "I respond to the scripts that I feel passionate about, and I've been lucky enough to get the roles. I'm really happy about that. It's actually hard right now to get roles. I don't know if it's my age, but there aren't too many movies that are about a female character.

"The stories are about a man and his journey and, if there's a woman involved – and it could be a big part of the story – it's still about the man and his journey. I pray every day that there will be something wonderful for me. Sometimes it's fun to be 'the girl,' if it's a good girl character. 'Inventing the Abbotts' was an ensemble film with lots of wonderful people and a director you really want to work with."



Liv Tyler is Lucy Harmon, a young girl who travels to Italy looking for love after her mother's suicide in Bernardo Bertolucci's "Stealing Beauty."

As Pamela Abbott in the film, Tyler is one of three daughters (the others are played by Jennifer Connelly and Joana Going) of wealthy businessman Lloyd Abbott (Will Patton). Pamela and Doug Holt (Joaquin Phoenix), a young man from a far poorer family, are best friends and could care less about class differences. However, Doug's taciturn brother, Jacey (Billy Crudup), cares a great deal. He resents the Abbotts and believes that Lloyd Abbott not only caused his father's death, but that his family, not the Abbotts, should be rich. To get even, the handsome Jacey tries to sleep his way through the Abbott sisters, including Pamela.

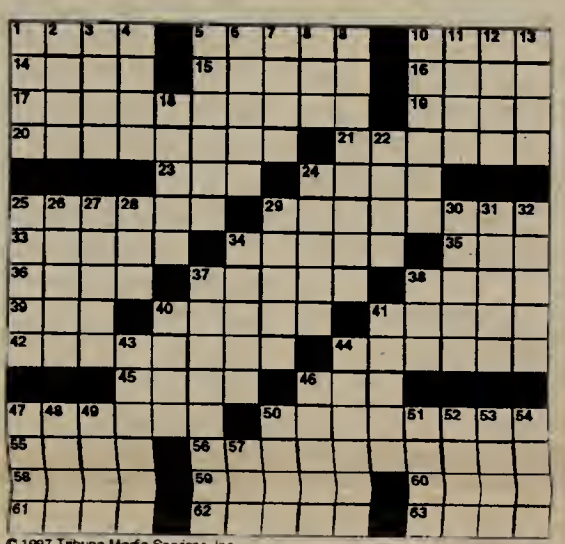
Tyler, who lives in downtown New York City, says all the right things about "Abbotts," which was produced by filmmaker Ron Howard. She speaks fondly of the cast, the director, the period costumes and so on. She's pleased with the finished film, too, and genuinely hopes that it will attract a wide audience. But the best part of her experience was falling in love with Phoenix, the brother of the late River Phoenix and a young talent who already showed his acting stuff to great effect in Gus Van Sant's acerbic "To Die For."

"I looked at him and I fell in love the second I saw him," Tyler says in hushed, adoring tones. "I didn't have any hesitation about it, which I normally would. But this was a special situation."

Indeed, the two look cozy on screen. Tyler claims that's a combination of effective performing and bona fide affection. "Joaquin told me just a few weeks ago that before he met me he thought, 'I don't care who she is, if I love her or hate her, I'm going to make this work. There's going to be chemistry,'" Tyler says, laughing. "We were acting. That was our job. But there were definitely elements of things that were natural."

As the daughter of rocker Steven Tyler, the Aerosmith lead vocalist, Tyler – who romped with Alicia Silverstone through the sexy Aerosmith video "Crazy" back in 1994 – has been around the fame and celebrity game long enough to know all about its many perks and tempting but dangerous land mines. She tries to do good work, strives not to take herself too seriously, and attempts to maintain a low-profile. "If I thought about it all too much I'd be a paranoid nut, and I'd be sitting in a corner, hiding," says Tyler.

Liv Tyler's film credits include "Empire Records," "That Thing You Do" and the new Ron Howard film, "Inventing the Abbots." Tyler's rising star is based on smaller, artsy-type films.



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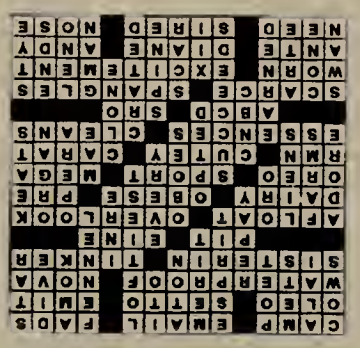
ACROSS
1 Settlement
5 Electronic messages
10 Crazes
14 Bread spread
15 Heated quarrel
16 Give off
17 Make impervious to rain
19 Exploding star
20 —-law (family circle member)
21 Fiddle with
23 Hole
24 German one
25 Adrift
29 Miss
33 Milk products store
34 Very plump
35 Before: pref.
36 Cookie
37 Baseball, e.g.
38 Large: pref.
39 Presidential initials
40 Sweety
41 Gem weight
42 Perfumes
44 Sanitizes
45 Alphabet run
46 Theater sign
47 Hard to find
50 Ornaments
55 Used
56 Furor
58 Pay up
59 Sawyer of TV
60 Artist Warhol
61 Poverty
62 Begat
63 Snoop

DOWN
1 Cattle
2 Russian mountain range
3 Shea Stadium players
4 Browning or Gray
5 — de corps
6 Deserve
7 Like — of bricks
8 O.J. judge
9 Highest
10 Herb
11 Out of control
12 Plunge
13 Headliner
18 Take care of a loan
22 Regarding
24 — now and then
25 Worship
26 Cultivates
27 Legal claims
28 Spanish gold
29 Woodwinds
30 "Carmen," e.g.
31 Church instrument
32 Odist John
34 Chose
37 Gets ahead
38 — West
40 Network letters
41 Duplicate
43 Worked for
44 Boxed up
46 Backbone
47 Graceful bird
48 Ice cream holder
49 A Johnson
50 Battle reminder
51 Federal agent
52 Late night Jay
53 Finishes
54 Eye problem: var.
57 12



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Healthy aging needs a plan

DR. JEAN PREBIS, ASSOC. DIR.
PUC Gerontology Center

The human species evolved to provide us with a maximum life span of about 120 years. As many of the causes of early death have been eliminated, life expectancy (average age at death) has dramatically increased. A child born now can expect to live, on average, to age 75, with women being the survivors. Those who have already reached the age of 65, can expect to live from 15 to 20 years more. Our challenge today, is how to make these 75 to 85 years a continual source of satisfaction and pleasure.

Gerontologists now identify two types of aging: Primary and Secondary. Primary Aging is associated with the intrinsic aging process, while Secondary Aging reflects the long term consequences of our life style. Primary Aging brings us the graying of hair, and the Presbyopia that puts bifocal lenses in our eyeglasses. Secondary Aging produces diseases and problems that have often been misidentified as necessary consequences of the aging process. They are not part of "normal aging," but are a result of life style factors that can be changed.

If you don't want wrinkled skin, stay out of the sun. If you don't want hypertension, modify your diet, get enough appropriate exercise and learn to dissipate the buildup of stress. The same advice can be given to those who wish to avoid heart disease. In fact, the 30 percent drop in Heart Disease mortality (since 1970) is attributed to the success of life style modifications.

There is no "quick fix" here, no magic pill, no DHEA hormone, or E vitamin, or uplifting transcendental thought that will "save us" from aging. We can only achieve and maintain peak levels of functioning by developing a life style that nourishes all aspects of our complex self - that speaks to our physical, mental, emotional, social and spiritual well- being.

We must: nourish our bodies with real food, feed our minds with new experiences, stretch and challenge our muscles, extend friendship and love to those who will give us back emotional support, and find a purpose in life that will allow us to know that we are worthy human beings. Finally, we need to keep ourselves from doing incredibly stupid, dangerous and destructive things that will foreshorten our lives or reduce our capacity for realizing our full potential.

The whole point here is not to add another year of decrepitude to the end of an already long life, but to give us a way to optimize life satisfaction all along the way. All we really need to do is pay attention, and to follow this simple rule - "if you don't use it - you lose it! If you misuse it - ditto!"

Job search got you stressed?

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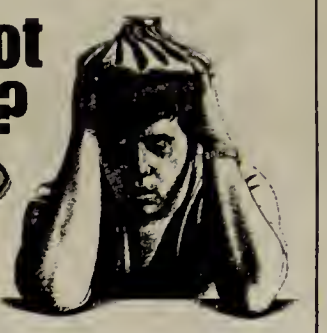

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